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HOUSE BILL 616 By
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SENATE BILL 916
By Carter

AN ACT to provide for directional signs to Suede's Restaurant and the Carl Perkins Museum on Interstate Highway 40 in Madison County.

WHEREAS, Suede's Restaurant in Jackson is the home of the Carl Perkins Museum, which draws thousands of visitors annually from all over the world; and

WHEREAS, on display in the restaurant and museum are many articles of memorabilia spanning the fifty-year career of the legendary Carl Perkins, who has been universally recognized as the "Father of Rockabilly Music"; and

WHEREAS, an early pioneer in rock 'n' roll and one of the greatest songwriters, musicians and performers in the history of popular music, Carl Perkins wrote and recorded "Blue Suede Shoes," which became the first record to reach number one simultaneously on three separate charts: pop, country and blues; and

WHEREAS, Carl Perkins was one of the first sixteen performers inducted into the Rock 'N' Roll Museum in 1987; and

WHEREAS, there is more musical history on display at Suede's Restaurant and the Carl Perkins Museum than any other location between Nashville and Memphis, and thus it is only

fitting that people traveling on Interstate Highway 40 in Tennessee, The Music Highway, should be informed of the museum's important place in the history of American popular music; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the department of transportation shall erect and maintain directional signs for Suede's Restaurant and the Carl Perkins Museum on Interstate Highway 40 at Exit 82-A, both eastbound and westbound, in Madison County.

SECTION 2. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 3. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.